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Security Council

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Letter dated 9 September 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that the Council of the League of Arab States, meeting at the level of ministers for foreign affairs in Cairo on 4 and 5 September 2002, adopted a resolution entitled "Rejection of the threat of aggression against certain Arab States, and in particular Iraq, as a threat to Arab national security".

In the resolution, the Council decides: to reject categorically the threat of aggression against certain Arab States, and in particular Iraq, and to affirm that such a threat and any other threat to the security and integrity of any Arab State is to be considered a threat to Arab national security; to demand that the sanctions against Iraq be lifted and the suffering of its fraternal people be brought to an end so as to ensure stability and security in the region; to demand that the independence, sovereignty, security, unity and territorial integrity of Iraq be respected and that all forms of interference in its internal affairs be halted; to welcome Iraq's initiatives to strengthen the dialogue with the United Nations and to call for its continuation with a view to reaching a comprehensive settlement between the two sides that will ensure the linked and simultaneous implementation of all the requirements of the relevant Security Council resolutions; to call for dispatch in the implementation of paragraph 14 of Security Council resolution 687 (1991), concerning the establishment in the Middle East of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction, and, in particular, in the elimination of Israel's arsenal of weapons of mass destruction that poses a serious threat to Arab national security and to security and stability in the region and the world; and to request the Secretary-General to establish contact with the Security Council and the Secretary-General of the United Nations and urge them to meet their legal responsibility under the Charter of the United Nations to avert any aggression.

The resolution adopted by the Arab ministers for foreign affairs emphasizes to the entire international community that all of the Arab States sense that their national security is one and the same; that they are united in their solidarity with regard to anything that might affect their existence, their security and their right to a life of dignity; and that they will strive together to raise the voice of truth and law in international relations, to reject hegemonism, aggression and the use of double standards and to preserve peace and security in the world. I am transmitting to you herewith a copy of the resolution adopted by the Ministerial-level Council of the League of Arab States (see annex).

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I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed A. **Aldouri**
Permanent Representative

Annex to the letter dated 9 September 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Rejection of the threat of aggression against certain Arab States, and in particular Iraq, as a threat to Arab national security

The Ministerial-level Council of the League of Arab States,

Having considered:

The note by the secretariat;

The note from the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Yemen;

The interim report of the Secretary-General;

And resolution 227 adopted by the Summit-level Council of the League of Arab States on 28 March 2002 and the relevant section of the Council's Final Communiqué,

Decides:

1. To reject categorically the threat of aggression against certain Arab States, and in particular Iraq, and to affirm that such a threat and any other threat to the security and integrity of any Arab State is to be considered a threat to Arab national security;

2. To demand that the sanctions against Iraq be lifted and the suffering of its fraternal people be brought to an end so as to ensure stability and security in the region;

3. To demand that the independence, sovereignty, security, unity and territorial integrity of Iraq be respected and that all forms of interference in its internal affairs be halted;

4. To welcome Iraq's initiatives to strengthen the dialogue with the United Nations and to call for its continuation with a view to reaching a comprehensive settlement between the two sides that will ensure the linked and simultaneous implementation of all the requirements of the relevant Security Council resolutions;

5. To call for dispatch in the implementation of paragraph 14 of Security Council resolution 687 (1991), concerning the establishment in the Middle East of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction, and, in particular, in the elimination of Israel's arsenal of weapons of mass destruction that poses a serious threat to Arab national security and to security and stability in the region and the world;

6. To request the Secretary-General to establish contact with the Security Council and the Secretary-General of the United Nations and urge them to meet their legal responsibility under the Charter of the United Nations to avert any aggression;

7. To keep the Council in session in order to monitor any developments or eventualities that may arise and take appropriate measures in their regard.